

Attorney's Docket No.:10559/094001/P7612/Intel Corporation

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the above-referenced application are respectfully requested.

The objection to the disclosure has been obviated.

Claims 6, 9 and 18 stand rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph as allegedly being indefinite. In response, these claims are amended herewith for definiteness.

Claims 1, 3-4 and 8-11 stand rejected under 35 USC 13 as allegedly being anticipated by Kerpez. This contention has been obviated by the amendment of the claims herein. Specifically, claim 1 has been amended to emphasize its patentable distinctions by including certain limitations from claim 6 therein, to show that the data is separated into first voice information intended for the first communication device and represented by a first communication identifying number. According to claim 3, this first communication identifying number may be a telephone number. Turning back to claim 1, however, the separation also produces second voice information that is not intended for the first communication device. The second voice information is output to the expansion port.

Kerpez clearly does not show separating the data according to identifying numbers in this way. The data is simply separated from the voice, and the voice is coupled to all

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telephones. Moreover, there is no teaching or suggestion of any kind of expansion port.

Nor is this shown in the additionally cited references. Edson shows a system in which broadband information may be sent to various locations. Nowhere is there any teaching or suggestion in this system of separating the data by identifying numbers.

Similarly, Frankel teaches a system which distributes data and voice via packets. However, there is no teaching or the unity, from information in intended from other devices of this type and certainly not based on identifying numbers. More specifically, there is no teaching or suggestion of the first electronic element which separates voice information based on the identifying numbers, keeping the part that is intended for itself, and sending out the part that is intended for other information on an expansion device.

The hypothetical combination of Kerpez in view of these other references certainly would not teach or suggest this system. In fact, Kerpez in view of Frankel would simply teach a Kerpez type system which is modified to include Frankel's packet switching.

An advantage of the present system is that the units themselves do the separation and provide the unused data to an expansion port. In this way, the unit itself becomes modular,

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that is expandable in a specified way. A user can buy one of these devices which operates to separate the data intended for the unit from the data that is intended for other units. By buying additional units, the system can be easily expanded. This is not in any way taught or suggested by the cited prior art, and hence it is respectfully suggested that each of these claims should be allowable for these reasons.

Claim 8 has been similarly amended to include the limitations of claims 12 and 15 therein. Claim 15 was rejected over Kerpez in view of Edson. However, as described above, Kerpez in view of Edson teaches nothing more than a Kerpez type system along with Edson's teaching of packet switching. There is no teaching or suggestion of a memory device that stores numbers indicating information intended for said voice adapter, and where the expansion output port is for data that is not intended for said voice adapter, as now claimed. Each of the claims includes similar limitations, and hence each of these claims should be allowable for similar reasons.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, therefore, all of the claims should be in condition for allowance. A formal notice is respectfully solicited.

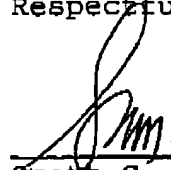
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Respectfully submitted,

Date: 05/08/03



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